

Social Services

Scott M. Matneson, Governor, State of Utah Anthony W. Mitchell, Ph.D., Executive Director

(801) 533-6146 August 6, 1979

Mr. R.B. Sewell Manager of Operations Plateau Resources 141 East First South Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

> Tailings Pond RE: Shootering Canyon

Dear Mr. Sewell:

We have reviewed the Plateau Resources Shootering Canyon environmental report, plans and information for the uranium mill total containment tailings pond in Garfield County. Plans 800-4605, Figures 1-5, Woodward Clyde May, 1979, Final Tailings Impoundment Plan and the Groundwater Monitoring wells report were reviewed.

As a result of our review, the plans for the Plateau Resources Shootering Canyon Mill tailing pond, Stage I, are approved and a construction permit as constituted by this letter is hereby issued, provided:

- 1. The company submits to this office quarterly operating reports of the recycle flow rate, recycle pH, monitoring well depth and chemical analysis.
- 2. Additional waste rock or other neutralization measures are provided if the recycle pH is less than 3 or a monitoring well pH is less than 6.

The uranium tailing total containment pond will have an area of approximately 70 acres and a volume of 2600 acre feet for the disposal of 750 tons of tailings per day. Stage I construction will consist of five tailings cells, a two-foot thick clay liner, underdrain system, cross valley berm, recycle system, six monitoring wells and a downstream 85 foot high dam. Shootering Canyon, Tailings Pond Page two

Additional plans should be submitted to this office prior to construction of Phase II or if other additional corrective measures are indicated by monitoring data.

Sincerely,

UTAH WATER POLLUTION COMMITTEE

Calvin K. Sudweeks Executive Secretary

cc: EPA, Salt Lake City Five-County 208
Gas, Oil and Mining
Division of Water Rights

SM:1p